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Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-10
SSM-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /069 W
----------097789 271545Z /53
O R 271446Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7440
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
USMISSION USUN

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 5541

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PBOR, IS
SUBJECT: BEGIN DISCUSSES SETTLEMENTS POLICY

1. SEPTEL REPORTS AMBASSADOR'S DISCUSSION WITH DAYAN JULY 26 ON GOI DECISION TO LEGALIZE THE SETTLEMENTS AT QADOUM, OFRA, AND MA'ALE ADUMIM AND NOTED THAT THE PRIME MINISTER MIGHT TOUCH ON THIS SUBJECT DURING THE KNESSET DEBATE TODAY. BEGIN DID, IN FACT, DISCUSS YESTERDAY'S DECISION AND REFERRED SPECIFICALLY TO THE SECRETARY'S CRITICISM OF THAT DECISION. HE SAID HE REGRETTED THE SECRETARY'S STATEMENT AND REVIEWED HIS GOVERNMENT'S POLICY TOWARD SETTLEMENTS, SAYING THAT NO ARABS WOULD BE EXPELLED NOR ARAB LAND EXPROPRIATED AND THAT JEWISH SETTLERS HAVE THE RIGHT TO SETTLE ANYWHERE IN THE LAND OF ISRAEL. HE ANNOUNCED THAT THE MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE FOR SETTLEMENT AFFAIRS, HEADED BY AGRICULTURAL MINISTER SHARON, WILL IN THE FUTURE HAVE AUTHORITY TO MAKE SETTLEMENTS ON
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DECISIONS IN THENAME OF THE GOVERNMENT.

2. THE TEXT OF BEGIN'S REMARKS ON THESE POINTS FOLLOW: BEGIN TEXT: I WANT--AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF THE DECISION ADOPTED YESTERDAY BY THE MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE FOR SETTLEMENT AFFAIRS, ACCORDING TO WHICH QADOUM, OFRA AND MA'ALE ADUMIM WERE GIVEN RECOGNITION

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--I WANT TO ANNOUNCE THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION
RELATING TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF
STATE. HE SAID YESTERDAY THAT THE SETTLEMENTS ARE
AGAINST INTERNATIONAL LAW. WITH ALL DUE RESPECT,
I WOULD TELL THE SECRETARY OF STATE THAT THIS IS AN
UNFOUNDED ACCUSATION. THE STATE OF ISRAEL MAINTAINS
INTERNATIONAL LAW.

3. YET, IF SOMEONE BASES HIMSELF ON THE GENEVA TREATY
OF 1949, A TREATY AIMED AT DEFENDING THE CIVILIAN
POPULATION IN CONQUERED AREAS, I MUST SAY THE
FOLLOWING. FIRST, JEWISH SETTLEMENT DOES NOT AT
ALL HARM THE ARABS IN ERETZ YISRAEL. WE HAVE NOT
EXPROPRIATED, NOR WILL WE EXPROPRIATE LAND FROM ANY
ARAB. THE DECISION ADOPTED YESTERDAY APPLIES TO
THREE EXISTING SETTLEMENTS. NO ARAB LAND WAS
EXPROPRIATED FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THESE
SETTLEMENTS. THEY ARE EXISTING SETTLEMENTS. IT IS
TRUE THAT THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT HAD DOUBTS
CONCERNING ONE SETTLEMENT, NAMELY QADOUM, AND THAT
FROM TIME TO TIME IT ISSUED ANNOUNCEMENTS TO THE
EFFECT THAT THE SETTLERS THERE WILL PERHAPS NOT BE
ABLE TO REMAIN ON THEIR LAND. HOWEVER, THE POSITION
OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT DIFFERS FROM THAT OF THE
PREVIOUS ONE ON THIS MATTER. WE THINK THAT JEWS
HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO BE IN QADOUM. THEREFORE, WE
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HAD NO DOUBT THAT WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
NEW GOVERNMENT WE WOULD RECOGNIZE THESE THREE
SETTLEMENTS AS SETTLEMENTS IN ALL RESPECTS. NO
WRONG WAS DONE BY THIS TO ANY ARAB FAMILY. AND
SO WE SHALL ACT IN THE FUTURE AS WELL. JEWISH
SETTLEMENT WILL NOT BE CONNECTED WITH ANY WRONGDOING
OR ANY EXPROPRIATION OF PROPERTY OF ANY ARAB
RESIDENT ANYWHERE IN ERETZ YISRAEL.

4. I WANT, IN THE NAME OF THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT,
TO EXPRESS DEEP REGRET ABOUT THE DEEP DISAPPOINTMENT
WITH THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE. THE
ANNOUNCEMENT HAD NO JUSTIFICATION. IN OUR TALKS
WE DID NOT LEAVE ANY ROOM FOR DOUBT REGARDING OUR
BASIC POSITION ABOUT SETTLEMENT IN ERETZ YISRAEL.
WE DO NOT WANT TO LEAVE ANY ROOM FOR DOUBT TODAY
EITHER AND THEEFORE I HAVE SAID WHAT I HAVE SAID.
TRUE, ON THE MATTER OF SETTLEMENT THERE ARE
DIFFERENCES OF OPINION BETWEEN THE U.S. GOVERNMENT
AND ISRAEL'S GOVERNMENT. THE DIFFERENCES IN OPINION
WERE NOT HATCHED YESTERDAY. THEY HAVE EXISTED SINCE
THE SIX DAY WAR. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS OCCASIONALLY

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EXPRESSED A RESERVATION, IN PUBLIC AS WELL, ABOUT THIS OR THAT SETTLEMENT HERE OR THERE IN ERETZ YISRAEL. THESE ARE EXISTING DIFFERENCES OF OPINION. HOWEVER, THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL ARE FRIENDLY COUNTRIES. ON THIS MATTER WE HAVE DIFFERENCES OF OPINION.

5. THE GOVERNMENT TODAY DISCUSSED THE PROBLEM OF SETTLEMENT AND I AM HERE HONORED TO BRING THE DECISION ADOPTED BY ISRAEL'S GOVERNMENT BEFORE NOON TODAY. THE GOVERNMENT IS AGAIN AUTHORIZING THE MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE FOR SETTLEMENT AFFAIRS TO DECIDE ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW SETTLEMENTS. THE DECISION OF THE MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE FOR SETTLEMENT AFFAIRS WILL
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BE WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE GOVERNMENT AND ITS DECISION WILL BE VALID AS THE DECISION OF THE GOVERNMENT. END TEXT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, LAND SETTLEMENT, SPEECHES, MILITARY OCCUPIED AREAS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1729379
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BEGIN DISCUSSES SETTLEMENTS POLICY
TAGS: PBOR, PGOV, IS, (BEGIN, MENAHEM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ddfbf662-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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